



MS68_Pers_2_8_001

Front cover of Diary 1945, Jack Clemo

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DIARY

1945

VICTORY - YEAR - AND NOT
ONLY IN EUROPE, D.V.

Jack Clemo.

MS68_Pers_2_8_002

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JANUARY

MON. 1

Fine, cold, dull after
a splittin' sunrise at
9:40

I don't feel any thrilling sense of having entered a year of Destiny,
let neither did E.B.B. a hundred years ago today. I might
like her, go "Counting all my chains, as if that so they
never could fall off." My reason for thinking this the
year of deliverance might be dismissed as fanciful.

(1) That this is the Centenary year of the Washpile
Street miracle.

(2) That this is the seventh year since the old
life ended with B's leaving here, so that, like Jacob,
I've served 7 years for the promised blessing.

(3) That the coincidence of the numbers (14, 29) of
the promise "when it is come to pass" fits the worst year -
4. B's is the right one.

(4) And of course there's the practical fact, that as far as I
can see, no good purpose can be served by further delay,
& that, as this is the year & that I shall lose my
friends, I shall need a tremendous uplift.

MAY

MON 7

Thank for, the fine, windy.

Another wave of fear came on for our father below this morning - born after
hours. I was gripped with the double horror of the prospect of this latest
vesting and with all other here. But I found comfort in dear old Elsie
"remembering his prayers for me, strongly to believe that 'dark foreboding'
was going to give surprise". ... No war news on paper today - find
reputation proceeding - but Russia shedding the same by investing Polish
parties - there is no truly the Soviet, Bolshevik party - they are still "golden in the
minds".

VE-DAY

TUES 8

Fine, windy but sunny.
Hot afternoon

VEDay - at last! And the news came this the greatest surprise.
I opened the door late last evening to find Sheila ^{Brown} outside, come up to tell us
the war was over, & when I suggested going to town to celebrate. Sheila says her
are then more so free as in the old days. Forget to feel the end,
sense of finality - I do think that it was no longer folly, as
she & I was dead not death through surprise - but what next? What to
do, for England, for me? ... Today just like any other holiday - not
happy with the first - then here after - thinking a lot about Dad, &
almost expected she might come. All here went to chapel in evening for
Thanksgiving Service, & I saw fig. 36 - the plane I promised money very
fully for England in the home of deliverance.

literature and Books that moulded my Religious Development
(the Bible, of course, throughout)

FIRST PHASE (1930-34, Age 14-18)

The Christian World sermons, esp. Talmage; The Lovell's Guide, Spurgeon's
Call of Grace, Sunday hymns, Ceryle Sister Reuben

SECOND PHASE (1934-38, Age 18-22)

Spurgeon's Sermons, C.T. Studd's biography, Oxford tramp letters (for Sunday only, etc.),
Browning's religious poems, Moody's sermon, Tony's How to Pray, S.E. Burrows
Gleanings, S.D. Gordon's sermons.

THIRD PHASE (1938-40, Age 22-24)

Spurgeon's Chrysostom's 7 books, Mr. Hilditch's Journal, Bunyan's Grace Handbook,
some letters from Christchurch, poems & essays, Browning's Love-letters, Sunday hymns

FOURTH PHASE (1940-45, Age 24-29)

C.S. Lewis' books, T.F. Porges's Study & Mr. Hilditch, Chesterton (more deeply), Talmage
works (most more deeply), The Methodist Recorder & Methodist hymn-books, Spurgeon's
Chrysostom & Studd's biography still very close, also Mr. Hilditch's Journal & Browning's Poems
Colours & Parables & (new) Heirich; God in Business; Francis Thompson's poems.

FIFTH PHASE (1945-50. Age 29-34)

A.J. Russell's books, T.F. Poyss Bible Path, Int'l Ego Attrib, Under, Stily
Browning's Sordello, C.E. Lewis The Great Dunce, & Merida,
Berth & Brunner (Natural History) Berth's Spells & the Roman &
Donne's works.

SIXTH phase (1950-55 - Age 34-39)

Spurgeon & Berth still dominating in Theology - R.C. influence
through Chertsey entered field despite discovery (1950) of Patmore's
poetry

Suggested ideas & titles for next few novels.

THE HIRED RAZOR

(In the same way that the Lord shave
with a razor that is hired. - Is.)

An indictment of modern pseudo-Christian idealism

MAINMAST

Now we hear our we shall
be told for the height of the cross
to maintain for our sake. *Beginning*

An attack of Christ's suffering as the "mainmast" of
the new order

THE HOWLING FIR

(Hired, for hire; for the cedar has fallen)

Marks person following the collapse of ^{July} faith - Humanism, etc.